

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 16, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Boehner, and Minority Leader Pelosi:

As you know, the recently passed Budget Control Act of 2011 establishes a Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction composed of 12 members of congress who will be tasked with reducing the deficit by \$1.5 trillion between 2012 and 2021. Given the incredible new powers of this "Super Committee" to recommend significant reforms, cuts, and revenue measures, we write today to ask you, as the appointers of the Committee, to ensure all the work of the Committee is done as openly and transparently as possible.

Specifically, we would like to request that the following transparency requirements are met:

- ❖ All meetings and hearings should be publically noticed in advance, open to the public, broadcast live over the internet, and archived on the Committee's website.
- ❖ The final legislative language put forward by the Committee should be posted online at least 72 hours prior to the final Committee vote.
- ❖ Campaign contributions received by Committee members should be posted online at least once per week to ensure proper oversight of donations from special interests to Committee members.
- ❖ All meetings between lobbyists and other special interest groups and members of the Committee and their staffs should be posted online at least once per week, as was done with the Troubled Asset Relief Program, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, and the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

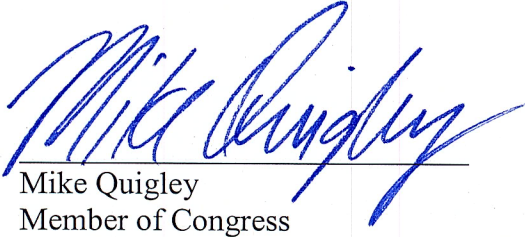
Holding extraordinary powers over trillions of dollars in spending and revenues, the 12 Committee members will face unprecedented pressure from special interest groups. Implementing the transparency measures listed above will ensure the vital work of the Committee is done out in the open and not behind closed doors.

The Super Committee has the potential to make game-changing reforms that will remedy our budget for decades to come, and we support the efforts of the Committee. We simply want to ensure that the process by which these critical decisions are made, that will result in billions of

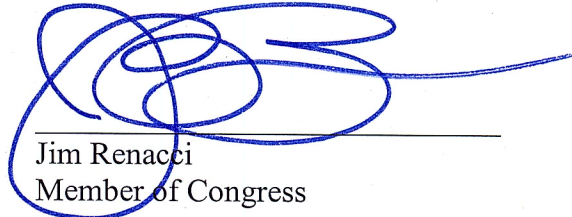
dollars in budget cuts impacting every American, will be as open, transparent, and accountable as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests. Should you have any questions, please contact Robyn Russell (robyn.russell@mail.house.gov) with Rep. Quigley.


Sincerely,



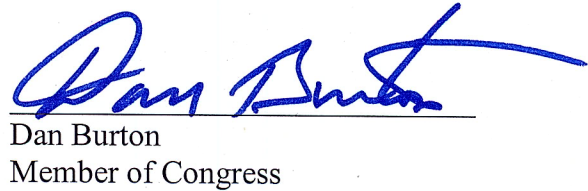
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



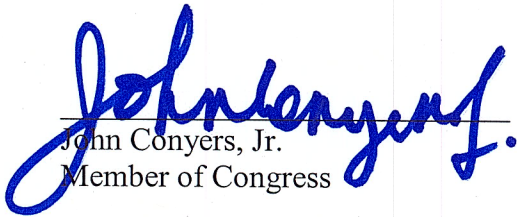
Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



Roscoe G. Bartlett
Member of Congress



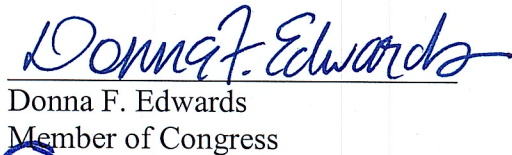
Dan Burton
Member of Congress



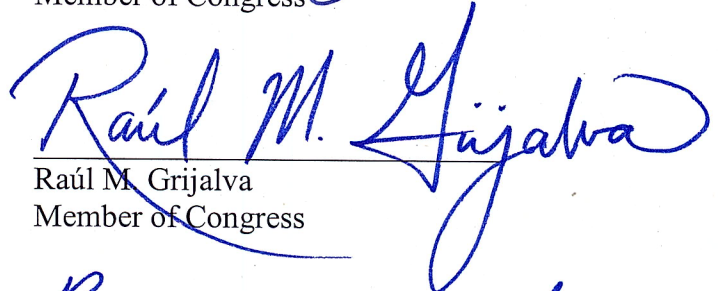
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



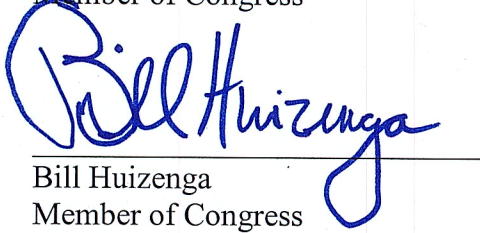
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



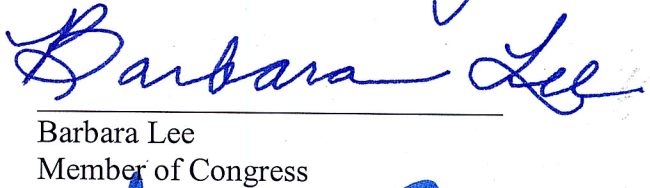
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



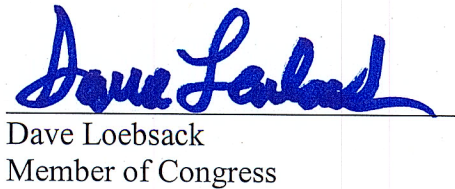
Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



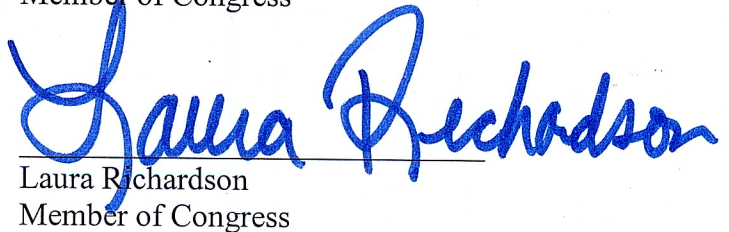
Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



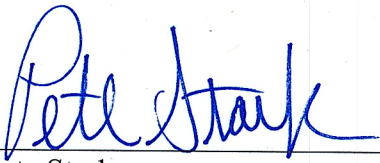
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



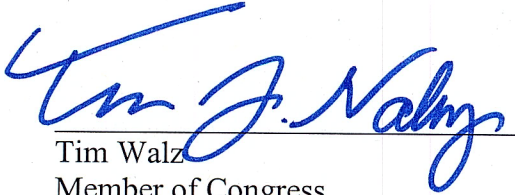
Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



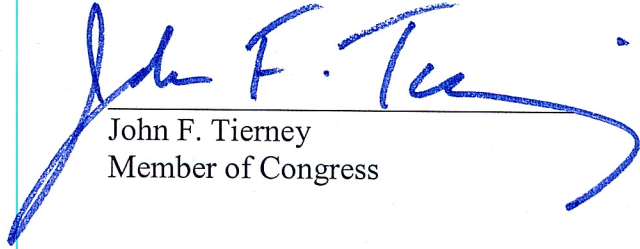
Laura Richardson
Member of Congress



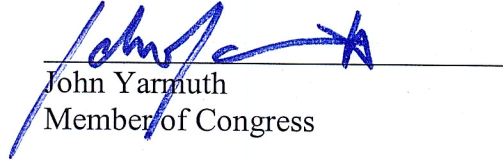
Pete Stark
Member of Congress



Tim Walz
Member of Congress



John F. Tierney
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress